

Fairfax-Falls Church Local Human Rights Committee
Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

Pennino Building / Human Services Center
12011 Government Center Parkway
Room 836A

Committee Members in Attendance: Loretta Redelman (Chair), Judy Regner, Betty Gardner, Ron Lambert

Committee Members Excused: Wendy Keating

Others in Attendance: Vicki Butterfield (CLA), Anne Wood (CSI), Dennis Manning (CRI), Julie Allen (CRI), Sue Gross (APTS), Chris Harrison (Member of the Public), Sandra Kelley (CFS), Tim Simmons (HR Advocate), Lisa Blecker (LHRC Support)

The meeting convened at 1:05 p.m. Approval of the April 11th minutes were deferred until the next meeting. Dennis Manning, President and CEO of Community Residences, Inc. introduced himself to the LHRC as well as Chris Harrison, Chair of the Hospital LHRC.

I. Annual Summary

A summary of the annual human rights activities were presented to the LHRC by Vicki Butterfield from Community Living Alternatives. The committee requested an updated summary clarifying the allegations of abuse on 7/26/06 and 9/29/06.

II. Restrictive Plan Discussion

A motion was made, seconded and voted on to move into Executive Session to review client issues at 1:45 p.m. and the Committee came out of Executive Session at 2:45 p.m. A behavior plan for an individual for his home and work was reviewed and accepted for three months. Twelve quarterlies were approved for three months with one recommendation for the program to explore pre-mediations prior to medical appointments. The LHRC was also updated on two plans. One plan's restrictive component was never implemented and that plan is no longer active. The LHRC requested another team to reconvene to discuss the need to introduce possible new restrictions and delete the restriction where the fading criteria has been met. The program will submit follow up on the action to be taken by the June meeting.

III. Committee Business Session

The committee interviewed Chris Harrison, Chair of the Hospital LHRC, as a prospective new member and will recommend his appointment by the SHRC. Another individual was previously interviewed and her name will also be recommended for appointment by the SHRC. The Chair read to the committee Wendy Keating's letter of resignation which will be submitted to the SHRC.

The LHRC reviewed a draft documenting the restrictive procedures the LHRC reviews and what techniques have been determined not to be a rights issue. It was agreed that there needs to be some flexibility because the restrictions need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Loretta Redelman and Ron Lambert shared with the committee a trophy they received at the volunteer luncheon held last month in Staunton.

The Regional Partnership of LHRC's has come up with a recruitment packet. If a name comes in for an LHRC but cannot be used by that LHRC, the name will be placed on a master list. The partnership has also been discussing regional training for members available on a quarterly basis. In the meantime, the advocates will provide the necessary training. A representative from VOPA will be attending their next meeting as well as Margaret Walsh. A subcommittee is coming up with an information packet for new members. The next SHRC meeting will be held in June at NVTC.

The election of officers was discussed. A motion was made and seconded that the slate of officers will remain as is through September and then the committee will reevaluate.

Tim Simmons brought up at the last quarterly meeting the idea that this LHRC discussed last month about an at-large LHRC member to cover meetings when regular members could not be present. No one before had ever entertained that idea and felt that there would be a lot of issues around stability and consistency.

ETRON requested to affiliate again with this LHRC. A copy of their approved policies and procedures was submitted to the LHRC for review. The LHRC requested that they also provide an overview of their program.

The committee will be visiting Leland House on May 15th to tour that program which is operated by United Methodist Family Services.

IV. Advocate's Report

Tim Simmons reported that the Human Rights seminar is scheduled for September in Richmond. The seminar will continue even if the new regulations are not back from the Governor's office. The workshops are based on feedback from surveys previously received.

Brain Injury Services has submitted their policies and procedures and are requesting affiliation with this LHRC. Their policies and procedures have been approved by the advocate and copies were given to the LHRC for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for: **Wednesday, June 20th**, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 836 A of the Pennino Building, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax County Government Center Complex.